

**LEMON GROVE [CITY COUNCIL]  
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

**Item No.** 1.]  
**Mtg. Date** April 4, 2017  
**Dept.** City Manager's Office]

**Item Title:** [Oppose Assembly Bill 805 (Gonzalez Fletcher)]

**Staff Contact:** [Lydia Romero, City Manager]

**Recommendation:**

Adopt a resolution (**Attachment B**) opposing Assembly Bill 805 (Gonzalez Fletcher) related structural changes to San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG); San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS); and North County Transit Agency (NCTD).]

**Item Summary:**

[Assembly Bill 805 introduced by Assembly Member Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher is a measure that would change voting structure and board make up of SANDAG, MTS, and NCTD; create new standing committee for SANDAG and allow both MTS and NCTD to propose and levy future taxes within their district.

The staff report (**Attachment A**) provides an analysis of how these changes would not be beneficial to City of Lemon Grove or its residents. Staff recommends that the City Council oppose this measure by way of resolution (**Attachment B**) as it moves through the legislative process.]

**Fiscal Impact:**

[Unknown fiscal impact should the measure pass.]

**Environmental Review:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not subject to review         | <input type="checkbox"/> Negative Declaration           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Categorical Exemption, Section [       ] | <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigated Negative Declaration |

**Public Information:**

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter article   | <input type="checkbox"/> Notice to property owners within 500 ft. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notice published in local newspaper | <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood meeting |   |

**Attachments:**

A. Staff Report

B. [Resolution ]

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## LEMON GROVE [CITY COUNCIL] STAFF REPORT

**Item No.** 1.I

**Mtg. Date** April 4, 2017

**Item Title:** **Oppose Assembly Bill 805 (Gonzalez Fletcher)**

**Staff Contact:** [Lydia Romero, City Manager]

### **Discussion:**

[Assembly Bill (AB) 805 introduced by Assembly Member Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher is a measure that would change voting structure and board make up of SANDAG, MTS, and NCTD. This measure would create a new standing committee for SANDAG and allow both MTS and NCTD to propose and levy future taxes within their district boundaries. If AB 805 is signed into law, this measure would have a negative impact on small cities like Lemon Grove by essentially making their participation on SANDAG negligible at best. The bill first and foremost would eliminate the current one city one vote rule by creating a weighted voting structure based on population thereby giving the two largest cities, City of San Diego and City of Chula Vista virtual control of the SANDAG board, including allocation of federal and state transportation funds and all TransNet grant monies. This change also includes changing the definition of majority members present to vote on any issue before the SANDAG Board to a quorum based on weighted vote members present.

The other troubling provision contained in AB 805 is only the cities with the largest and second largest population can serve as Chair and Vice Chair of the SANDAG Board. Today, that means only the City of San Diego and City of Chula Vista can hold those positions, therefore eliminating any possibility a smaller city such as Lemon Grove to have its representative board server in a leadership role and be a voice for the smaller cities in the region. Below are the other substantive changes AB 805 makes to SANDAG:

- Deletes the requirement that no city receive more than 40% of the weighted vote.
- Requires SANDAG to hire an independent auditor (who would serve for a term of five years.) The auditor would perform audits of the financial transactions report, expenditure plan, annual budget and revenue forecasts.
- Require the chair and vice chair of SANDAG to be the mayors of the largest city and the second-largest city, who would alternate between serving as chairperson and vice chairperson for four-year terms.
- Requires that the mayor of each city serve on the board of directors, except in the case of the City of San Diego, where the mayor and president of the City Council would serve. This provision also includes MTS board.
- Requires the chairperson of the County Board of Supervisor to serve on the board.
- Requires SANDAG to create an audit committee to direct and oversee the work of the auditor.

Although the bill may be in response to the recent SANDAG forecasting controversy, these proposed changes do nothing to address that issue. These changes would concentrate all control of SANDAG to the City of San Diego and make Lemon Grove's voice insignificant. Lemon Grove deserves equal representation on a regional Board, our residents are just as deserving as those that live in San Diego and Chula Vista.

# Attachment A

One provision that is included in the bill that was not discussed above, is the provision to give authority to MTS and NCTD to go to the voters to levy taxes within their district for transit projects. Assembly Member Todd Gloria introduced AB 1324, providing the same authority without changing the structure of SANDAG, its member voting provisions or concerting the power of regional decisions in only two cities. ]

## **Conclusion:**

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the resolution (**Attachment B**) opposing AB 805 (Gonzalez Fletcher) as it moves through the legislative process.

## Attachment B

### RESOLUTION NO. 2017-

#### RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LEMON GROVE, CALIFORNIA OPPOSING ASSEMBLY BILL 805 (GONZALEZ FLETCHER)

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**WHEREAS**, Assembly Member Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher introduced Assembly Bill 805 changing the structure of San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG); San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS); and North County Transit Agency (NCDT); and

**WHEREAS**, AB 805 unfairly puts the SANDAG Board under the control of the two largest cities in the County, City of San Diego and City of Chula Vista, to the detriment of smaller cities like Lemon Grove; and

**WHEREAS**, AB 805 eliminates the one city one vote rule using a weighted voting system based on population; and

**WHEREAS**, AB 805 undermines the participation of smaller cities in the decision making process, creating an unfair advantage by focusing on highly populated cities instead of an overall regional view.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove, California hereby:

1. Opposes Assembly Bill 805 (Gonzalez Fletcher) in the 2017 legislative session; and
2. Instructs staff to prepare the necessary letters to be signed by the Mayor that expresses the City of Lemon Grove's opposition to AB 805.

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